

Friend Request

Week 1: "I Am A Friend Of God"

Weekly Summary: The Bible speaks of God befriending people in the Bible, a term of incredible closeness and intimacy. How does that compare to the modern, social media driven idea of a "friend request"? What would it mean for our lives if the Almighty God was actually our ever-present friend?

◆ Ecclesiastes 4:9a - Two are better than one.

◆ Friend = A **preferred** companion.

◆ 4 Keys to Friendship

1. Friends **confess**.

❖ James 5:16 - Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.

2. Friends **support**.

❖ Galatians 6:2a - Carry each other's burdens.

3. Friends **work**.

4. Friends speak **life**.

◆ You are a **friend** of God!

◆ John 15:15 - I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends.

- ◆ 1 John 1:9 - If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Psalm 50:15 - "Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me."

1 Peter 5:7 - Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

Matthew 11:19 - "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.'"

- ◆ David Horn - "Is there a more profoundly personal, more deeply intimate, more wonderfully informal, more powerfully expressive, and more sought-after relationship than friendship? I don't think so."

Points to Ponder

1. Think of your current closest friend. What makes you "prefer" that person's company as opposed to the hundreds of other people you see on a daily basis?
2. Do you see Jesus as your friend? Why or why not? What blessings might come from seeing Jesus as someone who requests a friendship with you?
3. Agree/Disagree—Most people only have time for three or four real friendships.

Homework For Next Week: Google "Bible passages on friendship", and dig into God's truth on becoming a great friend.